



News Release

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San José Introduces Expanded Youth Guide on Police, Safety, and Crime

SAN JOSÉ – The City of San José and the City's Independent Police Auditor (IPA) will release a revised and expanded **Student's Guide to Police Practices** on Tuesday, September 30, 2008. The purpose of the guide is to educate young people and their parents on issues that challenge youth today. Basic police practices, important legal issues, and laws that affect youth are described in the guide. It also contains suggestions on interacting with police officers and on how to avoid being victimized by crime.

"San Jose's top priority is the safety of our residents, especially our children and youth. The new student guide provides valuable information that can help young people stay safe, make good decisions, understand the law, and access help they may need," said Mayor Chuck Reed. The IPA collaborated with the San José Police Department, members of the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force, other City and County departments, and community members on this most recent publication.

Originally published in 2003, the newly updated version contains sections on gangs, cyber-bullying, hate crimes, internet safety, and dating abuse. Valuable city and community services are listed in the resource section of the guide. There remains a strong emphasis on mutual respect in the guide and youth are encouraged to make smart choices when interacting with police officers.

Copies of the guide are available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese and may also be downloaded at www.sanjoseca.gov/IPA. Presentations about topics covered in the guide are available for students 6th grade and above by calling the IPA office at (408) 794-6226.

Student Guide, p2.

The mission of the IPA is to provide independent oversight of and instill confidence in the citizen complaint process through objective review of police misconduct investigations. Complaints of police misconduct can be filed with the IPA in person or by phone, fax, mail, or email. The IPA reports on patterns and trends to the City Council and makes recommendations for improvements to police policies.

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